# Address Confidentiality Program Safe at home John R. Ashcroft • Secretary of State

#### Safe at Home

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# **Application Assistant Updates: March 2021**

### Program Enrollment Continues to Increase

As of March 1, 2021, Safe at Home is providing services for over 2,500 individuals residing in approximately 1,100 households. In March 2020, the active enrollment was 2,260. Overall, this means Safe at Home is serving 240 more individuals than just one year ago. Between January to December 2020, over 340 new families enrolled in the program and over 6,500 individuals have been served since the program began in August 2007. Every Safe at Home participant met with a registered Application Assistant (AA) to complete the enrollment process, even during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Safe at Home staff and participants are extremely grateful for the continued services provided by AAs throughout the state.

## Safe at Home Staff Providing Live Webinars

Safe at Home has continued to offer Application Assistant training throughout 2020 by providing live webinars. Application Assistants are encouraged to share information about Safe at Home training with coworkers, colleagues, or other agencies who might be interested. Safe at Home trainings are open to anyone who would like to learn more about the program. Employees or volunteers of government agencies or non-profit programs are then eligible to become registered Application Assistants if they choose. Current Application Assistants are not required to attend a live webinar, but they have the option to participate at any time. Visit the Upcoming AA Training web page for the training schedule and online registration.

Safe at Home staff are also available for informational presentations to agencies, law enforcement, and community groups through online meetings. Interested groups can send a request through the <u>Safe at Home</u> website or email <u>safeathome@sos.mo.gov</u>.

## Signatures and Registration Numbers

To be sure Safe at Home staff can process a new application as quickly as possible, AAs need to ensure signatures are completed in all the correct places.



Both the Participant Application and the Checklist of Understanding require signatures from both the applicant and the AA. New participants cannot be approved without all the necessary signatures. Both forms also require the Safe at Home Application Assistant's Secretary of State Registration Number. The AA number is located on the certificate mailed to every AA after they have completed both the training and the AA Agreement. If an AA does not have their certificate or AA Registration Number, they can contact the Safe at Home office.



#### **Top Tips for AAs**

What Addresses Does an Applicant Need to Provide? When completing a Safe at Home Participant Application, the forms provide space for Current Missouri Mailing Address, Current Missouri Home Address, Current Employer Address, and Current School Address. The addresses on the application should be locations applicable to the applicant at the time the application is completed. None of the addresses should be previous locations. The mailing address provided on the application form will be the address where Safe at Home sends the very first communication to new participants within five business days of receiving their application. The home address is where the applicant is currently staying or residing, even if it is a temporary arrangement. The home address on the application is used to verify residency if the applicant needs services based on a geographic area. The employer and school address sections provide space for one address each, but AAs may include work or school addresses for all individuals on the application if it applies. AAs are welcome to attach additional sheets of paper if necessary. Any of these addresses may be changed by the participant at any time by sending a written request to Safe at Home.

# How Does a New Participant Register to Vote Through Safe at Home?

Every Safe at Home applicant is given the opportunity to register to vote through the Safe at Home program. Even applicants who have previously been registered to vote in Missouri can choose to register through Safe at Home to help protect their new confidential address. All applicants who would like to register to vote through Safe at Home will complete a Missouri Voter Registration Application and return it to the Safe at Home staff along with the other program application forms. Safe at Home participants are not required to be registered voters but AAs are required to offer it.

#### How Do I Request More Application Packets?

AAs may request more application packets any time by calling the Safe at Home office at (866) 509-1409 or emailing **safeathome@sos.mo.gov**. Packets are only mailed to AAs on the current registry. Application materials are also available in Spanish and Bosnian. Please be aware that application forms with the date "8/2018" at the bottom are the only forms currently accepted by Safe at Home. AAs may destroy any old forms discovered at their agencies.